

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION  
COMMITTEE ON THE FUTURE**

IAC Conference Room  
100 N. Senate Avenue Room N505  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
November 17, 2009, 10:00 a.m.

Dick Stifel, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Jeanne Mirro (ex officio)

Members present via teleconference: Dick Stifel, Suzie Rentschler, Gil Cárdenas, Judy Hess, Karen Ellerbrook, Jon Ford, Jan Shupert-Arick

IAC Staff present: Lewis Ricci, Michelle Anderson, Laura Frank, Dennis Hardin

Guest via teleconference: Ron Stratten

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Mr. Stifel convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. **Consent Agenda and Minutes.** Ms. Rentschler moved to adopt the consent agenda. Ms. Ellerbrook seconded. Motion passed.

3. **Mid-year Budget Adjustments.** Mr. Ricci explained that the latest revenue forecasts from the state budget office have triggered additional cuts in all areas of state government. He recounted recent discussions with the state budget office, which sought to mandate an additional 25% hold-back in the FY2010 IAC budget; the IAC budget had already been reduced by 20% over FY2009, with a 5% hold-back already in place. Most state agencies were mandated an additional 5% hold-back in their current budgets. IAC was allowed to appeal the budget recommendation; Mr. Ricci and Ms. Anderson attended a meeting to present the IAC case, and ultimately the budget office agreed to a 5% hold-back for FY2010, but would not commit to any preliminary budget figures for FY2011, pending tax revenue forecasts which will come in January. Mr. Stifel recommended that IAC retain an awareness of the state budget-making process when the next session of the legislature convenes in 2010. Mr. Ricci then presented a hand-out (attached) showing proposed areas where IAC can make reductions in the FY2010 budget to meet the 5% hold-back, primarily by reducing grants in the Majors and Regional Block Grants categories by 4.5%, and the rest coming from administrative costs in the IAC home office. Mr. Cárdenas asked if funding from the National Endowment for the Arts could help make up for the loss at the state level. Mr. Ricci replied that there may be an increase of \$30,000 to \$40,000 in from the NEA, but that the amount of increase will not significantly close the gap. Mr. Ricci asked the committee to recommend approval of the revised FY2010 budget, so that IAC can proceed with getting grant payments to recipients. Ms. Rentschler moved to

recommend approval of the revised IAC budget for FY2010 to the full commission. Ms. Hess seconded. Motion passed.

Mr. Ricci reminded the committee that a recommendation was approved at the June 2009 quarterly business meeting which calls for re-examination of the viability of the Regional Arts Partners system if the FY2010 state budget contained more than a 25% cut over FY2009. Unfortunately, with the new 5% hold-back in place, the 25% threshold has been reached, and so the issue of whether IAC can continue its Regional Arts Partnerships into FY2011 must be examined and re-evaluated. Mr. Ricci asked for discussion and consensus concerning the re-evaluation of the RAP system, and contingency plans for further cuts in the FY2011 budget. Mr. Stifel asked how the review would proceed, and Mr. Ricci replied that it would be the work of the Committee on the Future, as well as part of the new strategic plan, and would include consultation with the Partners. Ms. Mirro remarked about the sensitivity of the issue, and that due diligence is required. The committee agreed that a motion could be brought to the full commission at its December 11 meeting to address the re-evaluation of the Regional Arts Partners system, which would be conducted by the Committee on the Future and the Strategic Planning Committee. Mr. Ricci also asked the committee for approval to send a communication to grantees explaining the anticipated budget cuts and showing revised grant amounts, so that grantees have the information for planning purposes. This communication would emphasize the equity and fairness of the cuts. The committee gave its verbal approval to proceed with such a communication to the field.

**4. Looking to a New Strategic Planning Process.** Mr. Stifel opened the discussion by asking what the committee thought the right number of people would be to fill the Strategic Planning Steering Committee. Mr. Stratten, former IAC commissioner who will facilitate the new planning process, remarked that it could be a number between 10 and 15 without becoming unwieldy, and that the Steering Committee would probably need to meet in full only three times during the process. Mr. Ricci presented a list (attached), compiled from commissioner and staff recommendations, of individuals who are considered to be qualified candidates to serve on the Steering Committee. He remarked that he had grouped the names into 7 categories, and that a good place to start might be to select one or two individuals from each category, keeping in mind geographical diversity. His categories are: current commissioners, former commissioners, major organization administrators, mid-major organization administrators, regional arts partners, other partners, and others. Ms. Rentschler remarked about the probability that some of the candidates may not be available. Mr. Stratten added that other diverging perspectives might yet come forth from the intended white paper, from surveys, and other public meetings at the front end of the planning process. He emphasized the importance of diverse perspectives. Mr. Stifel then proceeded through each category, with discussion among the committee members about the first and second choices, resulting in a list of 15 persons who will be asked to join the steering committee:

Karen Ellerbrook, current commissioner, Evansville  
Jon Ford, current commissioner, Terre Haute  
Sandi Clark, former commissioner, Bloomington  
Lee Marks, former commissioner, Shelbyville  
Glen Kwok, International Violin Competition of Indianapolis

Todd Minnick, Honeywell Center, Wabash  
Terry Whitt Bailey, Cornerstone Center for the Arts, Muncie  
John Cain, South Shore Arts, Munster  
Tetia Lee, Tippecanoe Arts Federation, Lafayette  
Brian Blackford, Indiana Department of Tourism  
Jon Kay, Traditional Arts Indiana, Bloomington  
Wug Laku, artist, Indianapolis  
Christel DeHaan, Indiana Education Roundtable  
Tony Moravec, Blairex Labs, Columbus  
Designated liaison to Governor's office

In addition, several other individuals were identified as alternate choices in the event of unavailability:

Steven Stolen, Indiana Repertory Theater  
J.L. Nave, Fort Wayne Philharmonic  
Lee Williams, Lotus Music Festival  
Libby Chiu, Illinois Arts Council

Mr. Ricci suggested that a letter be sent to each individual, to be signed by Ms. Mirro, IAC Chair, and Mr. Stifel as chair of the COF. Mr. Ricci would then follow up by telephone.

5. **Old Business.** There was no old business.

6. **New Business.** There was no new business.

7. **Adjourn.** Mr. Stifel and Ms. Mirro offered closing remarks about the challenges which lie ahead for the IAC. Ms. Ellerbrook moved to adjourn. Ms. Hess seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.